**Oil Seeds Production Programme**

2272. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the basic key inputs for which financial assistance was given to State in the Oilseeds Production Programme;

(b) the extent of this assistance given to Maharashtra;

(c) what is the exact nature of efforts made for popularisation or rizobium culture in oil seeds production; and

(d) what is the response of Maharashtra in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The financial assistance is given for production and distribution of seeds, organisation of frontline and general demonstration, supply of P. P. Chemicals and equipments, Rhyzobium culture, gypsum/pyrite, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets etc.

(b) The Government of India has provided Rs. 985.00 lakhs as Central assistance under the Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) during 1993-94.

(c) Assistance @ of Rs. 15/- hectare is provided for distribution of Rhyzobium culture in case of groundnut and soyabean.

(d) The performance of Maharashtra in implementation of OPP including the supply of Rhyzobium culture is good.

**Soyabean and Sunflower Programme in Maharashtra**

2273. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the non-traditonal areas in Maharashtra where the Soyabean and Sunflower Programme have been taken up:

(b) how these areas have responded to the programme;

(c) how much subsidy on certified quality seeds was given in the area and how many sessions of demonstration through Indian Council of Agricultural Research were held in these areas; and

(d) for how much time will this programme be continued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) As per information gathered from Govt. of Maharashtra Sunflower and Soyabean Production have been taken up in large areas in the State only after 1980. In the current year an area of 5.50 lakh hectare is expected to be brought under Sunflower cultivation mainly in Latur, Osmenabad, Beed, Aurangabad, Jalana and Sholapur districts. Sunflower cultivation is done throughout the year, the average productivity in the State is about 600 kg. per ha. In the current season Soyabean production is expected to be taken up in about 5.00 lak ha. mainly in Nagpur, Amravati, Wardha, Akola,Yeotmal, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Jalgaon, Dhule and Nasik districts and in some areas of Marathwada Division. The yield per ha. in 1992-93 is estimated nearly 1000 kg. per ha.

(c) An amount of Rs. 190.54 lakhs have been earmarked for the distribution of certified seed for all oil seeds in Maharashtra during 1993 ICAR has reported conduction of 28 and 15 Frotline Demonstrations of Sunflower and Soyabean respectively.

(d) Oil seeds Production Programme under which cultivation of these crops has been taken up will continue till end of VIII Plan e.g. 1996-97.

**पंजाब में बाढ़ के कारण भूमि की उर्वरा-शक्ति का नष्ट होना**

2274. श्री शांति त्यागी : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पंजाब में भारी वर्षा और बाढ़ के कारण फसलों को भारी नुकसान पहुंचा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि विभिन्न सरकारी एजेंसियों द्वारा खरीदे गए गेहूं और चावल को, जो पंजाब में गोदामों में रख दिया गया था, भारी नुकसान पहुंचा है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि बाढ़ के कारण काफी बड़े भू-क्षेत्र की उर्वरा-शक्ति नष्ट हो गई है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो इस दिशा में क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविंद नेताम) : (क) और (ख) पंजाब सरकार ने सूचना दी है कि हाल ही की बाढ़ से 14.74 लाख एकड़ क्षेत्र में फसलें नष्ट हो गई हैं ।

(ग) और (घ) 11 से 19 जुलाई, 1993 तक हुई वर्षा और बाढ़ से रोपड़; पटियाला, लुधियाना, संगरूर, अमृतसर, कपूरथला और फिरोजपुर राजस्व जिलों में कुछ भण्डारण परिसरों में भण्डारित 92246 मीटरी टन गेहूं तथा 29680 मीटरी टन चावल प्रभावित हुआ है ।

(ङ) राज्य सरकार से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार 3245 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र रेत भरने/भू-क्षरण से प्रभावित हुआ है ।

(च) रेत से भरी/क्षरित भूमि को ठीक करने के लिए प्रभावित किसानों को संस्थागत सहायता प्रदान की जाएगी ।

**Setting up the Milk Product Processing Units in Private Sector**

2275. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are liberalising the policy of setting up milk product processing units in favour of Private Sector;

(b) whether the co-operative sector currently enjoying monopoly has protested against Government policy; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir, The new industrial policy announced by the Government of India in July, 91 has liberalised a number of industries including Dairy from the purview of compulsory licensing.

(b) and (c) The co-operative sector does not enjoy the monopoly in this regard. However, co-operative sector has in general welcomed the promulgation of Milk and Milk Production Order, 1992.

**Low Consumption of Fertilizers**

2276. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite good monsoon this year the intake of fertilizers is expected to decline as compared to that of last season;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) what are the reasons according to the Government and export for this decline;

(d) what would be the effect on food production owing to low consumption of fertilizers; and

(e) what are the measures contemplated by Government to meet this situation so as to keep the food production normal and to mitigate the difficulties being faced by the fertilizer industries within the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE *MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI* ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) During 1993-94, as on 15-7-1993, the sales of urea registered an increase of 27% compared to the same period last year while that of DAP and MOP registered a decline of 56 and 44 per cent respectively as shown below :

(Lakh tonnes)

| Product | Kharif 92 | Kharif 93 |
|---|---|---|
| Urea | 24.74 | 31.35 |
| DAP | 8.66 | 3.83 |
| MOP (up to 20-7-93) | 5.35 | 3.03 |

(c) Decline in the sales of DAP and MOP has been mainly due to increase in their prices consequent on their decontrol in August, 1992.

(d) and (e) Fertilizer consumption is one of the several factors contributing to food grains production. The decline in phosphatic and potassic fertilizer consumption is not likely to have an immediate adverse impact on food grain production in the country. In Order to mitigate the long term effects the following measures have been taken by Government :

(1) Rs. 340 crores (1992-93) and Rs. 756 crores (during 1993-94) have been provided for sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers with concession to the farmers.

(2) The indigenous fertilizer industry are being assisted by—

(a) restricting the current years concession to indigenous production only ;

(b) reduction in railway freight in respect of raw material such as phosphatic acid, rock phosphatic etc. ;